



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Michael Butsch et al. Confirmation No.: 7784

Serial No. : 09/890,715

Filed : December 31, 2001

TC/A.U. : 3731

Examiner : Daniel J. Davis

Docket No. : 01-407

Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims
which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 5 of this paper.